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## News of the Week.

**—Dresden, Prussia.**—A Co. New York, late importers, are charged with having, during a long series of years, carried on a systematic course of swindling on the revenue department. Their house in that city was established about 1850. Their principal house is in New York, and they have branches in London, Nottingham, London, St. Petersburg, San Francisco, and New York. Richard Musser and Frederick Musser carry on the business in New York, and Otto Musser manages the San Francisco house. According to the affidavits the penalties reached the enormous sum of \$2,500,000. It is alleged that this house is trying to form itself into a joint stock company so as to evade part of the liability.

—When Walworth donned the prison uniform at Sing Sing, he remarked: "I have gained seven pounds in chains since I came here. I feel now like engaging in a base ball match." He remarked of the handcuffs which linked him to Gillen, the wife-murderer, "They are the link that binds me to my fate."—Philadelphia.—The mint is engaged in remelting vast quantities of light gold coins. Since January 1, some twenty-three million dollars' worth have been melted, and ten millions more will be received this week. Orders for the new trade dollars will be filled in the early part of next week.

—The total amount to be raised by taxes, this year in New York city, is slightly in excess of \$27,000,000, of which \$16,700,000 are required for city purposes, and \$10,300,000 for state purposes.

**WEST.**—A band of 200 Arizona Indians has crossed the line and entered Chihuahua to spoil the Mexicans. Captain Jack and his companions in confinement are reported to be growing wan and weak from their imprisonment. The number of Mexican captives has been increased by the surrender of three more braves with their women and children. Lieut. Balcomb of the fifth cavalry who was sent in pursuit of the murderers of Lieut. Almy, in Arizona, overtook them in the mountains and compelled an engagement, killed fourteen and captured six.

—The railroad valuation of Ohio has increased nearly eleven millions during the last year. The board of equalization fixed the value of railroad property last year at \$68,112,000, and this year at \$79,112,000.

—Shipments of Texas cattle east from Wadita, Ellsworth, and other points in Kansas, have commenced. There are 60,000 head at Wadita, and 150,000 head on the way to that point from Texas. According to official railroad reports there is also a large number at Ellsworth, and small droves elsewhere.

—The question of the terminus of the Northern Pacific railroad continues to excite the people of Puget sound, Washington territory, and Portland, Oregon. The terminus at Seattle, Washington territory, offers, by way of inducement, a donation of land and a subscription of money already amounting to \$1,000,000. The town of Tacoma offers the control of the entire water front and a large tract of land. In case Seattle does not get the terminus a responsible party agreed to build, equip and put in running order a branch from Seattle to connect with the Northern Pacific near Tacoma by the 1st of January, or for a less amount than that pledged to the company by Seattle.

—The gain to California's population by all routes of travel, during the last six months, is twenty-four thousand four hundred and sixteen; twelve thousand from China and Japan.

**GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.**—Upon the question made by Mr. Orton, president of the Western Union telegraph company, the attorney-general has decided that upon lines of telegraph operating under the act of July 24th, 1866, officers and agents of the different departments of the government may telegraph on other than official business at rates fixed by the postmaster-general.

—The attorney-general has decided that the fifteen per cent. increase of compensation of employees of the different departments of the government, as provided for by the act of March 3, 1873, applies only to those employed during the last congress, and does not apply to persons whose employment in that capacity commenced after the 3rd of March, 1873.

—Illinois has 6,536 miles of railway service, the largest amount of any of the United States. Ohio is next, with 4,877 miles, and New York is third. Massachusetts has about 1,700 miles. New England and the New England states have as many as 1,000 miles. The total railway service of the country is 65,514 miles, an increase of 5,693 miles during the past year.

—Under the law which Congress passed to refund the duties on the iron and steel which actually entered into the construction of buildings in the burned district in Chicago, the treasury has paid a drawback of nearly \$250,000 to the importers or actual consumers of the articles. Thirty thousand dollars have been paid since Congress adjourned. This is a very large increase of the estimate made at the time the law was passed. The secretary of the treasury has paid to the board of public works \$400,000, one half of the appropriation made by the last Congress for improvements around public grounds.

**FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.**—A Havana letter states that two entire Spanish regiments are in revolt against the captain-general. Several Spanish camps in Puerto Principe have been withdrawn, and the forts in the northern section of the island are being abandoned by the Spaniards.

—The permanent retirement of Bismarck from the Prussian cabinet, as announced some months ago, is now the order of accomplishment. The prince has been asked for his resignation. He will retain the German citizenship. Von Bismarck, it is reported will be minister of foreign affairs.

—It is reported that the French government has under consideration the question of calling a congress of representatives of the great powers in Paris, to discuss the terms of the new commercial treaty.

—Paris.—The second instalment of two hundred and fifty million francs of the bill of the war indemnity was delivered to the German treasury on the 5th. There now remains due to Germany but five hundred million francs, which, in accordance with the treaty signed at Berlin on the 15th of March last, is to be paid by the 5th of September next.

—Salvador Cisneros has been chosen president of the Cuban republic, Cisneros having resigned. The federal republicans of Cuba have published a manifesto urging the union of all parties, and calling on the insurgents in

## BOLIVAR BULLETIN.

VOLUME VIII.

BOLIVAR, HARDEMAN CO., TENNESSEE, JULY 18, 1873

NUMBER 47.

the name of the captain-general and the republic to lay down their arms and enjoy the benefits of republican government. The republicans have appointed a committee to go to Madrid and represent them before the government and courts.

—A special from the Hague to the Fall Mail Gazette denies that any settlement has been made between the Dutch and the Acheenes. In the States-General of Holland, July 20, the colonial minister announced that all the supplies requisite for the equipment of the second expedition against Acheen have been furnished. He added that no negotiations had been reported in public prints; but it was not improbable that they might be opened through the intermediary offices of a friendly Rajah. The government of Holland was willing to concede an honorable peace, but the reported conditions of settlement were wholly inadmissible.

—The government at Madrid has decided to employ every resource to crush the Carlists. Bounties are offered for soldiers, and if they do not succeed, the government will supply cartridges and bullets to the Carlists, and will furnish them with food and clothing. The government of Holland was willing to concede an honorable peace, but the reported conditions of settlement were wholly inadmissible.

—A dispatch from Bombay gives intelligence of a rising among the Hindoo peasants in the district of Poona. They refuse to pay rent, and are demanding that the land be given to them. The government of India is sending troops to suppress the rising.

—Birmingham and Wolverhampton journals express alarm at the decrease of orders for the new trade dollars which will be filled in the early part of next week.

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## A REVOLUTIONARY REMINISCENCE.

Here's the spot. Look around you. Above on the right Lay the Housians encamped. By that church on the right Stood the stout Jersey farmers. And here ran a You may dig anywhere and you'll turn up a ball. Nothing more. Grasses spring, waters run, flowers bloom. Pretty much as they did ninety-three years ago. Nothing more, did I say? Stay one moment; you've heard Of Caldwell, the person, who once preached the Word Down at Springfield? What, No? Come—that's the name of the "rabid high priest." He stuck in there For he loved the Lord God, and he hated King George! He had caught you might say! When the Housians, that day, Marched up with Kniphausen, they stopped on the "Farms," where his wife, with a child in her arms, Sat alone in the house. How it happened none knew But God, and that one of the breeding crew Who fired the shot! Enough—there she lay! And Caldwell, the chaplain, his husband, away! Did he preach, did he pray? Think of him, as you By the old church to-day—think of him and that Of militant plough-boys! See the smoking and the red of the reckless advance; of the straggling retreat! Keep the thought of that wife, fondly slain, in your mind—And what will you, what should you, what would you do? Why, just what he did! They were left in the church For the waste of more wedding. He ran to the church, Broke through the striped pews, and dashed out With arms full of hymn-books, and threw down his head At their feet. Then, above all the shouting and shouts, Rang his voice; "Put Watts into 'em, boys, give 'em Watts!" And they did. This is all. Grasses spring, flowers bloom. Pretty much as they did ninety-three years ago. You may dig anywhere and you'll turn up a ball—but not always a hero like this—and that's the fact. —Bret Harte.

## VENTRILOQUISM.

## The History and Peculiarities of the Art.

It was supposed for many years, and eminent physiologists gave countenance to the theory, that some peculiarity in the conformation of the larynx was requisite for ventriloquism, or at least that it was accomplished by processes essentially different from those adopted in ordinary speaking or singing; but it has been demonstrated that the vocal organs of the ventriloquist are the same as those of other men, nor is his use of them materially different from that of others. For success in the exercise of his art, he requires only keen perceptions, an ear delicately attuned to the variations of sound produced by distance or direction, and a strongly developed mimetic faculty. The vocal organs possess the power of imitating, under skillful training, all the sounds of animate or inanimate life, and in such a way as to represent them as heard at greater or less distance and from different directions. The ventriloquist is well aware that while one of our senses is more easily deceived than of our hearing, because in listening to sounds we judge of their remoteness by comparing them with other sounds whose distance we are familiar with, and determine their distance by an arbitrary and often incorrect estimate of their relative volume at the place of their supposed emission, a standard which must often be faulty.

The uncertainty with regard to the direction of sound is the foundation of the art of ventriloquism. If we placed ten men in a row at such a distance from us that they are included in the single within which we cannot judge of the direction of sound, and, if on a calm day, each of them speaks in succession, we shall not be able with closed eyes to determine from which of the men any of the sounds proceed, and we shall be incapable of perceiving that there is any difference in the direction of the sounds emitted by the two uttermost. If a man and a child are placed within the same angle, and if the man speaks with the accent of a child, without any corresponding motion in his mouth and face, we shall necessarily believe that his voice comes from the child; nay, if the child is so distant from the man that the voice actually appears to us to come from the man, we shall still continue to believe that the child is the speaker; and this conviction would require additional strength if the child were to utter the words of the man spoken by the man.

Another famous ventriloquist was Louis de Brabant, at one time valet de chambre to Francis I. Rejected by the parents of a very rich heiress as an unsuitable match for their daughter, Louis, on the death of the father, paid a visit to the widow; and, as soon as he entered the room, the voice of her deceased husband was heard thus to address her: "Give me my daughter in marriage to Louis Brabant, he is a man of fortune and character, and I endow the pains of purgatory for having refused her to him. Obey this admonition, and give repose to the soul of your departed husband." Of course the widow complied. But Brabant's difficulties were not yet overcome. He wanted money to defray the wedding expenses, and resolved to work on the fears of an old banker, M. Cornu of Lyons, who had amassed immense wealth by usury and extortion. Having obtained an evening interview, he contrived to turn the conversation to the subject of departed spirits and ghosts. During an interval of silence, the voice of the miser's deceased father was heard, complaining of his situation in purgatory, and calling loudly upon his son to rescue him from his sufferings, by enabling Brabant to redeem the Christians at that time enslaved by the Turks. Not succeeding on the first occasion, Brabant was compelled to make a second visit to the miser, when he enlisted, not only the father, but all his deceased relations in the appeal; and in this way he obtained a thousand crowns for the purpose of liberating the Christian captives. When Cornu was at last undeceived, it is said that he died of sheer vexation and mortification, and it may be remarked, as rather an odd circumstance, that there have been very

few female ventriloquists, and these have always manifested a deficiency of power. Only one ever attained any considerable celebrity, and even her name is unknown. She lived in Amsterdam in the sixteenth century, and is referred to incidentally by writers of that period as possessing a remarkable gift. The art seems to be known even by the savage races. We have authentic accounts of its practice in the most expert manner by the Esquimaux, some of whom are reported to have produced extraordinary acoustic effects by this means; and it is quite certain that ventriloquism is known among the African negroes. It is upon record that a recently imported negro in the island of St. Thomas, in the last century, was burned alive as a sorcerer for having uttered words to emanate from inanimate objects, such as earthen vessels, walking-sticks, statues, etc.

**Tom Paine.**—Mr. James Parton's paper on "The Presidential election of 1800," in the Atlantic Monthly for July, contains the following picture of Thomas Paine and his abode in Paris after the American war: "Mr. Jefferson's letter found him the occupant of 'a little dirty room, containing a small wooden table and two chairs.' An old English friend, who visited him not long after he received it, describes Paine's abode, which he had much trouble to find, as being the dirtiest apartment he ever sat down in. 'The chimney hearth was a heap of dirt,' he adds; 'there was a speck of cleanliness to be seen. Three shelves were filled with paste-board boxes, each labeled after the manner of a minister of foreign affairs, 'Correspondence Britannique, Francaise,' etc. In one corner of the room stood several large bars of iron, curiously shaped, and two large trunks; opposite the fireplace, a board covered with pamphlets and journals, having more the appearance of a dresser in a scullery than a sideboard. 'The occupant of this doleful room, then sixty-five years of age, soon came down stairs dressed in a long flannel gown, and wearing in his haggard face an expression of the deepest melancholy. His conversation showed that he was in full sympathy with the little band of Frenchmen whom Bonaparte had not dazed out of their senses. He had dared even to translate and print Jefferson's inaugural address, 'by way of contrast,' as he said, 'with the government of the first consul.' But he had lost all hope of France. 'This is not a country,' he said, 'for an honest man to live in; they do not understand anything at all of the principles of free government, and the best way is to leave them to themselves. You see, they have conquered all Europe only to make it more miserable than it was before. Republic! Do you call this a republic? Why, they are worse off than the slaves at Constantinople; for there they expect to be hallowed in heaven by submitting to be slaves here below. But here they believe neither in heaven nor hell, and yet are slaves to choice! I know of no republic in the world except America, which is the only country for such men as you and me. I have done with Europe and its slavish politics.' He gave his visitor Mr. Jefferson's letter to read, and said he meant soon to avail himself of its offer. 'It would be a curious circumstance,' he added, laughing, 'if I should hereafter be sent as secretary of legation to the English court which outlived me. What a hubbub it would create at the king's levee to see Tom Paine presented by the American ambassador! All the bishops and women would faint away. His guest faintly told him that the course of events had caused him to change his principles. Paine's answer was, 'You certainly have the right to do so; but you cannot alter the nature of things. The French have alarmed all honest men; but still, truth is truth.' Poor Paine! His errors were, for the most part, those of his age, and they were aggravated by his circumstances, his defective education and the ardor of his temperament. But his merits, which were real and not small, were peculiarly his own. He loved the truth for its own sake; and he stood by what he conceived to be the truth when all the world around him reviled it. That hasty pamphlet of his which he named 'The Age of Reason,' written to relieve his mind for relaxation but not only stand a large amount of work, but will continue to a good old age to fulfill the duties of life. Men break down in middle life not because they are overworked, but on account of their ignorance of the imperative demands of their physical system. In some cases it is not ignorance of these demands but willful neglect of their duty to themselves. Not long since a merchant, hearty and apparently strong, was taken ill, and his doctor pronounced it a case of overwork. Perhaps the doctor thought so, but if he had inquired closely into the habits of the patient he would have found that he was doing a great deal of work in the shape of a day in the business season, eating trash at cheap restaurants, or not eating at all during the daytime, at night making a late meal, retiring to bed with a load of indigestible food, to wake up in the morning feeling heavy and seeking relief by some invigorating cordial, the merchant finally yielded to these personal assaults, and the doctor pronounced it a case of overwork. Men do not gauge themselves as they should. The engineer who would at tempt to carry a hundred pounds of steam when he knew his boilers were not overworked, but gross abuse of himself. 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